

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF HAMILTON,

FOR THE YEAR,

ENDING MARCH, 1866.

SALEM:

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1866.



REPORT.

The School Committee for the year ending March, 1866,
present the following report :

EAST DISTRICT.

The school in this district was taught in the summer by
Miss LIZZIE W. SAYWARD of Ipswich.

Length of school,	3 months.
Whole number of scholars,	19
Average attendance,	13

WINTER TERM.

Miss MARTHA E. WHITTREDGE of Hamilton,Teacher.

Length of school,	3 months.
Whole number of scholars,	24
Average attendance,	20 1-3

SOUTH DISTRICT.

SUMMER TERM.

Miss ANNA M. BILLINGS of Cambridgeport,Teacher.

Length of term,	3 months.
Whole number of scholars,	40
Average attendance,	33

WINTER TERM.

Miss CHARLOTTE LEACH of Manchester,.....Teacher.

Length of term,.....3 months.

Whole number of scholars,.....47

Average attendance,.....34 47-58

WEST DISTRICT.

SUMMER TERM.

Teacher, Miss HELEN A. LEACH, of Manchester, who also taught
the winter school.

Length of term,.....3 months.

Whole number of scholars,.....34

Average attendance,.....26 1-10

WINTER TERM.

Length of school,.....3 months.

Whole number,.....24

Average attendance,.....22 11-15

NORTH DISTRICT.

SUMMER TERM.

Miss N. E. BROWN of Randolph,.....Teacher.

Length of term,....3 months.

Whole number of scholars,32

Average attendance,.....22

WINTER TERM.

Mr. JAMES W. PERKINS of Hampton N. H.,.....Teacher.

Length of Term,.....2 1-2 months.

Whole number of pupils,32

Average attendance,.....28 3-10

The teachers of the summer schools were paid \$20 per month—the female teachers of the winter schools, were paid \$30 each, and Mr Perkins \$40 per month.

The attendance has, we think, been better than for the year previous. A few have been perfect in this respect for a single term without any instance of absence or tardiness; they are however, so few, that their names should be recorded in this report.

They were, in the North District, in the summer term, Miss Abbie Dane; in the winter term, Lucy A. Tuttle. Abbie Tuttle, Susan Tuttle, Mary A. Chase, Chas. W. Appleton, Jos. W. Dane, and J. W. Dane. In the West District in the summer, Jesse F. Dodge, Isaac A. Lamson, and Huldah A. Kent; in the winter, Ellen A. Adams, and Charles Rogers. There were none in the East and South Districts who thus distinguished themselves. The highest average attendance for any term, was for the winter term in the West District; the lowest for the winter term in the South District. On taking a survey of the whole field, we conclude that the success of our schools in attaining the object for which they are sustained has been up to the average of former years. That of the school in the West District has been in all respects satisfactory to the committee, and, as far as we have been informed, to the parents; the discipline left nothing to be desired; the teacher seemed to have her charge so perfectly in hand that without any apparent effort she controlled them at her will, and the attendance and progress in study were highly

satisfactory. In the North District, all passed off smoothly. The spirit of the school has been excellent; there has been apparent a desire for improvement, and no disposition to disturb the order or disregard the rules of the school room. Much kind feeling has been shown to both teachers. Miss Brown, though young and inexperienced, sustained herself with credit, and Mr. Perkins gave to the Committee and the district much more than usual satisfaction.

The school in the South District has been larger than either of the others and has required more effort from its teachers for its government.

This school has not shown quite so cordial and prompt assent to the necessary discipline, as the West and North, still both teachers were quite successful in instruction, and the progress in study has been as noticeable as in either of the other schools. The committee and others who were present at the final examination of the winter term were much impressed with the excellent reading, especially of the highest class, and considered it the best specimen of reading that had been heard for a long time in any of our schools. Miss Leach's instruction was characterized by great thoroughness. The ground passed over was not extensive but seemed well understood.

The final examinations, both in the summer and winter, were largely attended by the parents and friends of the children and were very pleasing to all.

The attendance of the members of this school has been

more irregular than of either of the others, and this irregularity has been a hindrance to the success of the school, and an annoyance to the teachers. It is also a fact in the history of this school that the percentage of absentees on examination days is larger than in the others. The committee trust that parents will see that in both of these points there shall be improvement during the coming year.

In the East District, an indisposition to good conduct and obedience to the rules of the school, has been more marked than in either of the others. Some of the boys, especially in the winter, seemed to entertain the notion that they attended the school for the purpose of hindering its success and making sure that no benefit for themselves or others should be realized. The teachers were well qualified for their position and were zealous and diligent in the discharge of their duties, and by some of the children very commendable progress was made.

We hope that all the parents in this district will in the future promptly and severely rebuke any tendency to disorderly conduct in their children, and cordially sustain the authority of the teachers. The average attendance in this school has been very good.

Notwithstanding in our schools the terms are short and vacations long, and compared with those of our cities and larger towns they offer small opportunities to our children, still we think that those who are desirous of learning, and whose parents are watchful to secure their regular attendance, good behavior, and diligence in study, are making

steady progress, and will become pretty well instructed in reading, spelling, geography and arithmetic, will become acquainted with the elements of grammar, and learn something of history. Of all the branches in which it is professed to give instruction, no one is so much neglected as writing. Our teachers give it but little attention, and the scholars feel but little interest in it.

We have no particular recommendations or suggestions to offer in regard to the future conduct of our schools. All that can be done to give them greater efficiency is the hearty cooperation of all concerned in making the most diligent use of the opportunities we have, by securing from the children prompt and regular attendance, ready obedience to school discipline and diligence in study.

DAN'L. E. SAFFORD,	} Committee.
JOS. P. LOVERING,	
STEPHEN G. HILER.	

HAMILTON, March, 1866.